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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number09/707,592
In re Application of.....Robert CAHN
Title of the Invention.....METHOD FOR PRICING NETWORK BANDWIDTH
SERVICES ON A VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORK
Filing DateNovember 7, 2000

Technology Center | Art Unit ..3629
ExaminerN. Vig
Docket Number.....2455-4629
Customer Number27123

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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR INFORMATION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.105

May 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

Applicant submits this Response to the Requirement for Information Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.105 in accordance to the Office Action dated March 9, 2004.

In response to the requirement to identify products and/or services embodying the disclosed subject matter of providing bases for evaluating present value computation detailed in reference formulas in the specification, and any other relevant evaluation of the subject which will explain where these formulas came from or derived from, there are no such products and/or services.

Regarding the formulas:

(i) setting a $\text{Total.cost} \times U + (1 -) \times L$

where is a measure of risk of losing money by carrying a given customer's VPN.

The formula involves computing the maximum possible cost of carrying the traffic (U) and the lowest cost of carrying the traffic (L) and setting the approximate cost somewhere between them.

All the graph algorithms can be found in "Introduction to Algorithms 2nd Edition" by Cormen, Lessermon, Rivest, and Stein.

As requested by the Examiner, a full copy of Applicants' book "Wide Area Network Design Concepts and Tools for Optimization" is provided herewith.

The requirement for copies of any other known documents that provide the particular subject matter found in applicant's disclosure, other than the books noted above, no others are presently known to the undersigned.

In response to the requirement for a list of keywords that would be helpful in locating publications related to the disclosed art of cross purchase, applicant provides the following list. These keywords can be found in the claims and Abstract of the application.

- "computing a greatest lower bound for the bandwidth";
- "computing a least upper bound for the bandwidth";
- "an auxiliary graph of Start and Finish nodes";
- "a directed edge between the nodes";
- "a shortest path algorithm to find the path from Start and Finish nodes";
- "multi-protocol label switching (MPLS)";
- "virtual private network (VPN)"; and
- "an estimate for the cost of the bandwidth".

AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge all required fees, fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or all required extension of time fees for this paper to Deposit Account Number 13-4500, Order Number 2455-4629.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: May 10, 2004